

**PATENT**

Docket No. HM-667

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Confirmation No.: 4616

Applicant: Dirk Schmidt, et al.

Serial No: 10/555,854

Filed: November 5, 2005

For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR COOLING OR QUENCHING SLABS  
AND SHEETS WITH WATER IN A COOLING BASIN

Examiner: Andrew M. Juettner

Art Unit: 4124

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

S I R:

The attention of the Examiner and of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references cited in a parallel pending Japanese patent application (no. 2006-505389). The references are listed on the attached form SB-08a. Copies of the references are forwarded herewith.

United States reference US4088309 corresponds to Japanese reference JP59034771 and European reference EP0195658 corresponds to Japanese reference JP61217531.

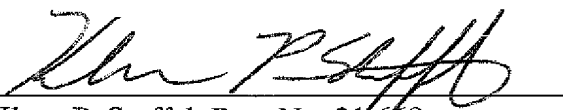
Japanese reference JP60009834 relates to obtaining steel materials having a good shape and desired quality without surface oxidation in the stage of subjecting a steel strip which is not subjected to an overaging treatment to a dip hardening treatment by administering the three points; the temp. control of a dipping bath, nozzle disposition of water sprayers and jet pressure control of the nozzles.

Japanese reference JP52066811 relates to preventing occurrence of the temper color while maintaining the bright state of the surface of the steel sheet, by carrying out the bright treatment to the steel sheet, then immersing it in water or in an aqueous solution and quenching it by spraying a jet stream in the immersed state.

With the submission of this admitted prior art, applicant thus complies with the duty of disclosure as set forth at 37 CFR 1.56.

Respectfully submitted,

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**CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this document is being electronically transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents via EFS-Web on December 29, 2010.

By:   
Klaus P. Stoffel, Reg. No. 31,668

Dated: December 29, 2010